

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/063 W

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R 081146Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2475

INFO AMCONSUL UDORN

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

13AF ADVON UDORN

7TH RRFS RASASUN STATION

DIRNSA

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5945

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJ: LUACHAI CASE: RAMASUN GATE INCIDENT

REF : A. BANGKOK 5752; B. UDORN 80 (NOTAL)

1. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERIOR WINYU ANGKHANARAK APRIL 8. HE LEFT WITH WINYU A FACT SHEET ON THE LUACHAI CASE. HE STRESSED THAT THE USG WAS RELYING ON THE RTG FOR POLICE PROTECTION OF THE CONSULATE IN UDORN, AS WELL AS OF U.S.-TENANTED BASES IN THE UDORN AREA.

2. WINYU SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH UDORN GOVERNOR ANEK SITTHIPRASOET, AND HAD JUST TALKED WITH HIM AGAIN BY TELEPHONE A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE. WINYU STRESSED THE POLITICAL EXPLOSIVENESS OF THIS ISSUE AND THE FACT THAT THE PEDICAB DRIVERS WERE INVOLVED. HE ALSO MENTIONED GOVERNOR ANEK'S DILEMMA IN HAVING TO AVOID THE IMAGE OF DEFENDER OF THE AMERICANS AGAINST HIS OWN PEOPLE.

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3. WINYU CLAIMED THAT THE PEDICAB DRIVERS WERE LARGELY IDLE BECAUSE AMERICAN TROOPS WERE CURRENTLY RESTRICTED TO THE BASE. HE IMPLIED THAT PEDICAB DRIVERS OUT OF WORK WOULD BE MORE PRONE TO JOIN IN DEMONSTRATIONS. WINYU SAID THAT THE RTG WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD TO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO AMERICAN INSTALLATIONS BUT POINTED OUT THAT EVEN THE HOUSES OF ITS OWN GOVERNORS WERE VULNERABLE TO CONFLAGRATION, AS IN ANKHON SI THAMMARAT.

4. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH DAMRONG SUNTHONSARATHUN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, DAMRONG SAID HE HAD FACED SIMILAR PROBLEMS WHEN HE HAD BEEN GOVERNOR OF CHONBURI PROVINCE. HE SAID THAT U.S. MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN UNCOOPERATIVE IN TURNING OVER ACCUSED AMERICAN SERVICEMENT IN POLITICALLY SENSITIVE CASES. HE CONTENDED THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY FOR AMERICAN SERVICEMENT IN THAILAND. WE REPLIED THAT THIS WAS GENERALLY THE CASE, BUT THAT RAMASUN WAS AMONG THE EXCEPTIONS.

5. COMMENT: WINYU LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT BOTH HE AND GOVERNOR ANEK WOULD LIKE TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE TO US, BUT MAY WELL BE CONSTRAINED FROM TAKING AN ALL-OUT STAND IN OUR FAVOR BECAUSE OF POLITICAL PRESSURES FROM ELEMENTS OF THE UDORN POPULATION AROUSED BY APPEALS TO THAI NATIONALISM. MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, RAMASUN STATION, MILITARY BASES, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** MARR, TH, US, (LUACHAI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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